

## Friends Board Meeting Minutes, December 21, 2021

Members present: Peg Hall, John Thalacker, Joe Hand, Bill Dummitt, Barbara Woodmansee, Jay Bushnell, Debbie Jordan, Denise Feiber, Linda Kimball, Boyd Kimball, John McPherson, Dan Kline, Paul Ramey, Debbie Meeks

Guests: Mark Woodmansee, Robin Gallup (camper volunteer).

No refuge staff representation this month, hence no report from Refuge Management.

Minutes and agenda were approved. Paul Ramey noted that minutes were not on dropbox. Suitably embarrassed, Bill Dummitt agreed to correct the problem.

Lacking a refuge report, Robin reported what the volunteers have done- handrails sanded on River Trail, landscaping around kiosk, rebuilt 1 bench and repaired two others. A couple of benches on the Tram Trail need sanding to remove mold. Several signs had been vandalized, stolen, or destroyed.

Financial- It was noted we have \$3370 in merchandise sales vs a \$3000 budget. We have \$7000 in sales and memberships- will change 2022 budget from \$6000 to \$7000 to be aspirational. The events budget was increased. A carryover line item was added since we plan to carry income over into 2022.

Vista- Quit claim deed was signed and recorded- transfer to refuge is complete. The refuge will take possession of items of museum quality. The number of miscellaneous items to be transferred to Friends ownership is too small to have a respectable yard sale. A boat is the only item of significant value.

Motion by John Thalacker, second by Bill Dummitt to ratify the agreement signed by Peg, Andrew, and the family. Passed by voice vote. FWS will pursue National Historic Register for Vista. Bill Dummitt pointed out that the FWS architect would require Historic Register standards on any work done, so there is not a downside to pursuing Register listing since restrictions would be in effect regardless.

Motion by Bill Dummitt, seconded by Denise Feiber to support FWS efforts to pursue historic register listing. Passed by voice vote.

Discussion of Fishbone Creek upgrades: Negative comments have been made on our Weebly blog. Debbie Jordan has inspected the area. Approximately 120 trees over 6 inches in diameter have been removed. The quality of the road looks very good. The edges still need to be cleaned up. It is clearly a work in progress at this time. John McPherson mentioned he was surprised that a canopy road was widened for unclear reasons. We will ask Andrew what policies applied and what next steps would be.

Nominating Committee- Ginessa Mahar has agreed to be President-elect. Debbie Meeks and Peg Hall are on the committee. We need a member who is not on the board to fill out the nominating committee.

Jan 21 event – will be a retirement party for Vic Doig and Ron Black. Friends will host a reception before the main party, which will include most of the people who would be at the normal cooperators event. There was a discussion of how to handle recognition events in the future. Many felt it generally didn't fit Friends mission.

Annual Meeting- Kenny is on board for catering. Marc Minno will be the speaker- topic will be butterflies and their host plants.

There was a discussion on how to get a butterfly handbook printed. Barbara is willing to do design work.

After the meeting, many members adjourned to the winter solstice event at Shell Mound. Although temperatures didn't drop below the fifties, a stiff wind made it feel very much like winter.